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Miss AGNES MORGAN.

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Miss Agnes Morgan was born at Watson, Atchison county, Mo., April 26, 1868. Her parents were, in a way, pioneers to the new West, of which Missouri was then a part, as Miss Morgan's family came direct from Tennessee to Northwest Missouri when she was a little girl, and Mr. Morgan's family left Kentucky when he was a little boy, and went first to Illinois and then to Missouri.

At the time of her birth, shortly after the Civil war, the country was still new. The year she was born the first railway, the first hotel and church (Cumberland Pres.) were built at what was afterward the town of Watson. So she is a westerner, with pioneer blood and spirit in her veins.

There had been no preachers or missionaries in either family, but most people were religiously inclined those days and all the children in her family were members of the church at an early age.

A cousin of her mother's became their

pastor when she was about eight years old and his wife immediately organized a mission band for the children, where she and her sister received their first knowledge of mission work.

Insensibly the atmosphere this devoted woman made for them, interested them in world wide work for Christ, but Miss Morgan's older sister was perhaps conscious very early of a personal interest in church work, judging from her later attitude. As for Miss Morgan, she says she doubts if she ever would have thought of becoming a missionary of her own accord.

At the ages of thirteen and fifteen, the two sisters entered college at Lincoln University, Ill., the nearest church school, and here their interest in church work grew somewhat, though not very perceptibly along active lines. Miss Morgan says: "In fact, we were so satisfied with study and so preferred a life of simple pleasures and fixed hours, that we did not even approve of the Y. W. C. A., and could not be induced to join it. Of course, we were younger than most of the students."

One of their Professors was Dr. D. M. Harris, well known in the Cumberland Pres. church, and his wife, also well known later as "Cousin Carrie." She got Miss

Morgan into primary S. S. work in her second year in college, where as she expresses it, she was "a babe teaching babes."

How the thought of becoming a missionary first came to be talked of between the sisters is hazy in Miss Morgan's mind. Her sister, being the older, had naturally done most of the thinking for the two in matters of importance, and she herself had been content in doing what was planned for her. They took it for granted also that they would both be together, so when her sister proposed that they should be missionaries, she never thought of objecting, and in 1884, Mrs. D. M. Harris brought their names before the Women's Board Convention, and from that time, they were its wards.

As the idea of being a missionary became more and more fixed, and she understood more of what it involved, she says the prospect was not in the least alluring. She liked study and reading, but did not enjoy teaching, though she taught both in public schools and private music pupils, but she much preferred housework.

She was sorry for people who did not know about the true God and Christ's teachings, but she was sure she could never, never be a useful teacher, even if

she should ever learn to use her tongue in a foreign language, which was doubtful, as, like Moses, she had a heavy tongue in her own!

But her sister wanted to go, and she could teach all right, and if she went, Miss Morgan must go, too. She was, in a way, an indispensable member of the pair, as her sister was not very strong, so she might be able to do some things that did not require much talking.

At this point she says: "I was ashamed to say that I really did not want to go, and actually afraid to look at the subject squarely and clearly for fear my courage would fail but I honestly did want to do whatever the Father willed." Her own prayer was that some hindrance be put in the way of her going if she was not called to the work. She had always felt that in the end, she was sure to like whatever she ought to do.

In the course of time, it was decided that the sisters should go to Japan in the fall of 1889. They were young—only twenty-one and twenty-three—and the world was larger then than it is now—much larger!

Then came another trial. Their mother was seriously ill that summer and the doctors said she might live for years or might

be taken suddenly any time. There were two young brothers, eight and twelve, ought they be left? The mother said nothing to detain them. She had consented to their going and though they knew it was hard for her, they were a family of few words, especially where their feelings were strongest. Again she prayed to be hindered if she ought not go. But no hindrance came and they left home in Nov., 1889, and reached Japan safely.

Mrs. Morgan is still alive and Miss Morgan has been home twice to see her. Her sister's health was not equal to the climate and at the end of her fourth year, she went home to stay, while Miss Morgan was left.

She, the one whose idea it was to go and who entered into the work with all hope and confidence, was not to continue, and Miss Morgan, the passive, the willing to be hindered, the fearful and doubtful, is still there twenty years later. And she says: "I enjoyed every part of my work from the start, and never thought of giving up when my sister had to return, and I firmly believe that I am safe in leaving my path to God, as I did twenty years ago, to lead me where He will, for He knows the future."

The Board today has no better missionary on the field than is Miss Morgan. Her influence, and that of the Wilmina Girls School, of which she is the head, is felt throughout the "Flowery Kingdom."

Published by the
WOMAN'S PRESBYTERIAN BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS OF THE SOUTHWEST,
708 Odd Fellows' Building,
ST. LOUIS, MO.

Price 5 cents per single Sketch.
Series of fourteen Sketches.